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would be Senator Johnson, then Senator Labeledz, then Senator Remmers, then Senator Hefner, and Senator DeCamp will close.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Which Johnson was that, the first one?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Rod Johnson.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Rod Johnson, and then Senator Labeledz, then Senator Remmers, then Senator Hefner, and then Senator DeCamp will close.

SPEAKER NICHOL: You have a total of ten minutes and I assume you want to spread that out?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Yes, they will use it over the period of ten minutes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, you deal out your ten minutes and we will go that way. Senator Rod Johnson, are you ready?

SENATOR ROD JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, my original feelings on this bill were one of doubts, and even though I am a part of a family farm operation in which we do raise cattle, I do have my doubts as far as the cost of this endeavor was concerned, but since reconsidering the issue, I have decided to speak in favor of the bill and I talked to Senator Haberman this morning if he would allow me to do so and he chose to allow me to take up some of his time. Now Nebraska's livestock industry is ranked first in cattle fed and marketed, first in commercial cattle slaughter, second in cattle on feed, and second in commercial red meat production in the United States. However, we are 48th in ratio of food animal veterinarians versus cash receipts for livestock and livestock products. In the Old West Region 17% of the nation's cattle are grown in this area. However, we only have 4% of the nation's veterinarians. Recent studies have shown that 37 counties in the State of Nebraska have existing shortages of animal science veterinarians and one of the studies that surprised me the most was the fact that of the students who attend our nation's veterinarian colleges, 43% of those who graduate from those vet colleges stay in those states where the vet colleges are located. Now I could see this happening in Nebraska that being second in cattle fed in the whole nation I think that it is very important that we bring more veterinarians to this state and spend the money here in our own state. I think it is important that we keep that in mind as we talk about this issue. Finally, in reviewing some of the recent